In the Claims:

1.   **(Previously Presented)** A computer readable medium, comprising instructions for metering execution of code, the instructions comprising:

receiving, at a protected service, a call from an application asking for execution of the protected service within a first runtime area;

requesting permission for the execution, wherein the request is made by the protected service to a metering engine operating in a second runtime area, wherein the request is made through a secure transmission layer; and

analyzing the request, at the metering engine, wherein the analyzing comprises:

referencing, within the metering engine, a service contract comprising rules governing operation of the protected service;

referencing, within the metering engine, a secure store of meter data, wherein the meter data comprises historical data reflecting past operation of the protected service;

using the rules and the meter data to decide the requested permission; and

updating the metering data to reflect the analysis.

2.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the service contract is selected from among multiple service contracts.

3.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the first and second runtime areas reside in different partitions of memory.

4.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the first runtime area is located at a first computing device and the second runtime area is located at a second computing device.

5.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the meter data comprises a number of times a protected service has been called.

6.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 5, wherein the meter data contains information relevant to more than one protected service.

7.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein requesting permission comprises opening a secure connection between the protected service and a metering engine configured to perform the analysis.

8.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein requesting permission comprises sending an encrypted message

from the protected service in the first runtime area to the metering engine within the second runtime area.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the permission was given, additionally comprising:

executing the protected service; and

returning results of the execution to the application.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the permission was not given, additionally comprising returning notice of failure to execute the protected service to an application that initiated the call.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A processor-readable medium comprising processor-executable instructions for metering execution of code, the processor-executable instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving, at a protected service, a call from an application asking for execution of the protected service, wherein the protected service is one of a plurality of protected services which may be called by the application;

requesting authorization to execute the protected service, wherein the authorization request is made from the protected service to a metering engine through a secure transmission layer; and

analyzing, with the metering engine, a <u>service</u> contract in view of meter

data to determine if the authorization request to use the protected

service by the application should be allowed, wherein <u>the service</u>

<u>contract is one of a plurality of service contracts associated with the</u>

<u>plurality of protected services, and wherein</u> the analyzing comprises:

referencing, within the metering engine, the <u>service</u> contract,

wherein the <u>service</u> contract comprises rules governing

operation of the protected service<u>, the rules comprising a</u>

<u>number of times the protected service may be executed and a</u>

<u>period of time during which the protected service may be</u>

<u>executed</u>;

referencing, within the metering engine, a secure store of meter data,

wherein the meter data comprises historical data reflecting

past operation of the protected service;

using the rules and the meter data to decide the requested

authorization; and

updating the metering data to reflect the analysis.

12.   **(Original)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11, wherein

the metering engine operates within a runtime area that is separate from a

runtime area within which the protected service operates.

13.   **(Currently Amended)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim

11, wherein the analyzing comprises instructions for:

analyzing the <u>service</u> contract using the meter data and identity of the protected service as input to the analysis.

14.   **(Cancelled)**

15.   **(Original)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the metering of code execution is performed in a managed code environment.

16.   **(Original)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11, additionally comprising, where the authorization request was allowed, instructions for:

executing the protected service; and

returning results of the execution to the application.

17.   **(Original)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11, additionally comprising, where the authorization request was not allowed, instructions for returning notice of failure to execute to the application.

18.   **(Original)** The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11, comprising further instructions for protecting communications between the protected service and the metering engine with cryptography.

19.   **(Previously Presented)** A code-executing device, comprising:

first and second runtime areas with a secure communication channel

between them;

a protected service configured to receive a request from an application for

execution of the protected service within the first runtime area; and

a metering engine, configured to receive the request and to operate within

the second runtime area and to return an allowance code or a

rejection code in response to the request by applying rules to meter

data, wherein the metering engine comprises:

an enforcement engine, configured for secure communication with

the protected service;

a service contract, configured to supply the rules governing

operation of the protected service, to the enforcement engine;

and

a secure store, within which the meter data is contained, wherein the

secure store is configured to supply, to the enforcement

engine, historical data reflecting past operation of the

protected service.

20.   **(Canceled)**

21.   **(Previously Presented)** The code-executing device of claim 19, wherein

the metering engine is configured to:

use identity of the protected service and data from the secure store of meter

data as input to an analysis providing return of the allowance code or

the rejection code; and

update the secure store of meter data to reflect the analysis.

22.   **(Original)** The code-executing device of claim 19, wherein the code-executing device is a cellular telephone.

23.   **(Original)** The code-executing device of claim 19, wherein the code-executing device is configured for use within a managed code environment.

24.   **(Original)** The code-executing device of claim 19, wherein the code-executing device is a compound device, and wherein the protected service is contained on a first portion of the compound device and the metering engine is contained on a second portion of the compound device, and wherein the first portion of the compound device is remotely located from the second portion of the compound device.

25.   **(Original)** The code-executing device of claim 19, additionally comprising a library of protected services, within which the protected service is contained.

26.   **(Original)** The code-executing device of claim 19, additionally comprising a library of applications, within which the application is contained.

27.   **(Previously Presented)** A computer readable medium comprising instructions for operating a managed code environment, the instructions comprising:

an application configured to consume services from a library of protected services;

a protected service, within the library of protected services, configured to receive a request from the application for execution; and

a metering engine, configured to return of an allowance code or a rejection code to the request based on rules governing operation of the protected service, wherein the metering engine comprises:

an enforcement engine, configured for secure communication with the protected service;

a service contract, configured to supply the rules governing operation of the protected service, to the enforcement engine; and

a secure store, within which the meter data is contained, wherein the secure store is configured to supply, to the enforcement engine, historical data reflecting past operation of the protected service.

28.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the protected service and the metering engine operate within different runtime areas.

29.   **(Cancelled)**

30.   **(Previously Presented)** The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the enforcement engine is configured to return of the allowance code or the rejection code by:

analyzing the service contract using identity of the application, identity of the protected service, and data from the secure store of meter data as input to the analysis; and

updating the secure store of meter data to reflect the analysis.

31.   **(Previously Presented)** A code-executing device for metering execution of code, the code-executing device comprising:

means for calling a protected service from an application;

means for calling a metering engine from the protected service; and

means for analyzing a contract to determine whether to allow or prohibit use of the protected service by the application, wherein the analyzing comprises:

referencing, within the metering engine, a service contract comprising rules governing operation of the protected service;

referencing, within the metering engine, a secure store of meter data, wherein the meter data comprises historical data reflecting past operation of the protected service;

using the rules and the meter data to decide the requested

permission; and

updating the metering data to reflect the analysis.

32. **(Original)** The code-executing device as recited in claim 31, additionally

comprising, where allowance was determined to be appropriate:

means, defined in the protective service, for executing functionality

requested by the application; and

means for returning results of the execution to the application.

33. **(Original)** The code-executing device as recited in claim 31, additionally

comprising, where rejection was determined to be appropriate, means for

returning notice of the rejection to the application.

34. **(Previously Presented)** The code-executing device as recited in claim 31,

wherein the means for analyzing the contract comprises:

means for analyzing the contract using identity of the application, identity

of the protected service, rules within the contract, and data from a

secure store of meter data as input to the analysis.

35. **(Original)** The code-executing device as recited in claim 31, wherein the

means for calling the metering engine comprises:

means for opening a secure connection between the protected service and

the metering engine; and

means for operating the protected service and the metering engine within
distinct runtime areas.

36.   **(Original)** The code-executing device as recited in claim 31, wherein the
metering is performed in a managed code environment.